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REMARKS

5 Claims 1, 18, 19 and 26 have been amended in  
accordance with the Examiner's suggestions made in the  
action of December 8, 2003. The specification has been  
amended to provide statements of the invention in accordance  
with the independent ones of the claims submitted in today's  
paper. Claims 1-39 remain in this application and stand for  
examination although claims 8-17, 22-25 and 27-39 stand  
10 withdrawn from consideration. Reconsideration and  
reexamination are requested in view of the foregoing  
amendments and the comments made hereinafter.

Rejection of claim 18-21 for indefiniteness

The Examiner rejects claims 18-21 under 35 U.S.C.  
112, first paragraph, as containing new matter.

15 Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestion as  
to proposed amended wording in claims 18 and 19 and  
reconsideration is requested in view of today's amendments  
to those claims.

Rejection of claims 1-7, 18-21 and 26 for indefiniteness

20 The Examiner rejects claims 1-7, 18-21 and 26  
under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

25 The Examiner has suggested positively reciting the  
filtration system and the backwash inlet associated with the  
filtration system. Applicant has adopted this suggestion in  
today's amendments to claims 1, 18, 19 and 26 and  
reconsideration is now requested in view of these  
amendments. Further, applicant notes the Examiner's further  
suggestions as to appropriate claim language defining the  
water apertures in claim 18 and, similarly, applicant has  
30 adopted those suggestions in today's paper.

Applicant appreciates the suggestions of the

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5 Examiner in moving this case forward to allowable form and  
in the event the Examiner has further suggestions, applicant  
invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone  
or by e-mail at the contacts indicated below in order to  
more quickly advance the application to allowance.

10 In view of the above, applicant submits that this  
case is now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and  
removal of the objections and rejections is requested and  
allowance of claims 1-7, 18-21 and 26 is respectfully  
solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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